



#165
R
0500.01064
9/19/00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Michael J. Wiener et al.
Serial No. 08/949,525
Filing Date: October 14, 1997

Examiner: D. Meislahn
Art Group: 2767
Docket No. ENT970827-1

Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR PROVIDING UPDATED ENCRYPTION KEY PAIRS AND DIGITAL SIGNATURE KEY PAIRS IN A PUBLIC KEY SYSTEM

AMENDMENT

Box Fee Amendment
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Certificate of First Class Mailing
I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the
United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an
envelope addressed to: Box Fee Amendment, Assistant
Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on
this date.

9/17/00
Date

Rosalie Swanson
Rosalie Swanson

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated June 1, 2000 regarding the above-captioned patent application, the Applicants hereby respectfully submit the following response.

700 MAILED ROOM
SEP 15 2000
RECEIVED

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully traverse and request reconsideration.

Claims 1-4, 6, 8-18, 23, 24 and 26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lewis in view of an article by Ellison. The Office Action cites Lewis as teaching a public key replacement system and also notes that Lewis does not teach that there are certificates with expiry data that "is user selectable". The Ellison article apparently has been cited for this proposition. The Office Action rejects the claims by stating that it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art "to give users the ability to define the validity period for certificates, as taught by Ellison, in the public key update system of Lewis." Applicants respectfully submit that even if the